

120 *THE CASTAWAYS OF
THE FLAG*

and made for some other eminence along
the coast.
But the little boy could not have flown
away.

Yet he might have been capable of
climbing along
the promontory after the bird. This
explanation
was hardly admissible, however, after
the search-
that Frank and the boatswain had
made.

Yet it was impossible not to see some
connection
between Bob's disappearance and that
of the
albatross. They hardly ever separated,
and now
they were both lost together !

Evening drew on. The father
and mother
were in terrible grief. Susan
was so agitated
that they feared for her reason.
Jenny, Dolly,
Captain Gould and the others,
did not know
what next to do. When they
reflected that if
the child had fallen into some hole he
would have
to stay there all night, they began to
search again.

A fire of sea-weed was lighted at the far
end of the
promontory, to be a guide for the
child in case
he should have gone to the back of
the creek.
But after remaining afoot until the last
possible
minute of the evening, they had to give
up hope
of finding Bob. And what were the
chances of
thdbr being more successful

next day ?

All went back into the cave, but not
to sleep.
How could they sleep ? First one, and
then
.another went out, watched, listened
through the
rippling of the tide, and then came
back and
sat down again without saying a word.